

Amendments to the Drawings:

The attached replacement and annotated sheets of drawings include changes to Figs. 1-23. The changes to Figs. 1-23 include adding descriptive labels to Figs. 1, 2, 4, 11, 12, 16, 17, 20 and 21, and the deletion of headings (e.g., 1/17, 2/17,..., and 16/17) from each of the seventeen sheets of drawings. The replacement drawing sheets submitted herewith replace the originally filed drawings and, to the best of the knowledge of the undersigned, include no new matter.

REMARKS

By the present invention, claim 1 has been amended. Claims 1-13 remain pending in the present application. Claim 1 is the sole independent claim. Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration and allowance in view of the foregoing amendments and the following remarks.

Objection to Drawings

1. The drawings are objected to because Figs. 1, 2, 4, 11, 12, 16, 17, 20 and 21 allegedly lack descriptive labels. Applicant has amended Figs. 1-17 by adding descriptive labels to Figs. 1, 2, 4, 11, 12, 16, 17, 20 and 21, and deleting the headings (e.g., 1/17, 2/17,..., and 17/17) from each of the seventeen sheets of drawings. The replacement drawing sheets submitted herewith replace the originally filed drawings and, to the best of the knowledge of the undersigned, include no new matter.

Applicant respectfully submits that the objection to the drawings is overcome and request withdrawal of this objection.

Rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph

2. Claims 1-13 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, as allegedly being indefinite. In particular, the Office Action notes on pages 2 and 3 that "said empty area" in line 10 of claim 1 lacks proper antecedent basis. Applicant has changed "said empty area" to

--an empty area-- in claim 1, and respectfully submits that claims 1-13 meet the specific requirements of 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph.

Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration and withdrawal of this rejection of claims 1-13 under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph.

Allowable Subject Matter

3. Applicant notes with appreciation the indication by the Office that claims 1-13 would be allowed if rewritten to overcome their rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph. Applicant respectfully submits that claims 1-13 are now in condition for allowance.

Conclusion

4. All of the stated grounds of objection and rejection have been properly traversed. Applicant therefore respectfully requests that the Examiner reconsider all presently outstanding objections and rejections and that they be withdrawn. Applicant believes that a full and complete reply has been made to the outstanding Office Action and, as such, the present application is in condition for allowance. If the Examiner believes, for any reason, that personal communication will expedite prosecution of this application, the Examiner is hereby invited to telephone the undersigned at the number provided.

The Office is hereby authorized to charge the fee for a ONE-month extension of time to Deposit Account No. 22-0261. No additional fees are believed to be required. However, if the

Application No. 10/074,042
Art Unit 2662

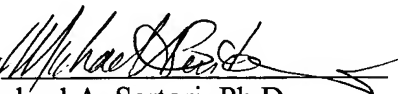
Docket No. 32178-178296
Customer No. 26694

Patent Office deems that any fees are necessary, authorization is hereby granted to charge any required fees to Deposit Account No. 22-0261.

Prompt and favorable consideration of this Amendment is respectfully requested.

April 13, 2006

Respectfully submitted,

By 

Michael A. Sartori, Ph.D.

Registration No. 41,289

Thomas C. Schoeffler

Registration No. 43,385

VENABLE LLP

P.O. Box 34385

Washington, DC 20043-9998

Telephone: (202) 344-4000

Telefax: (202) 344-8300

Attorney/Agent for Applicant

MAS/TCS

Fig. 1

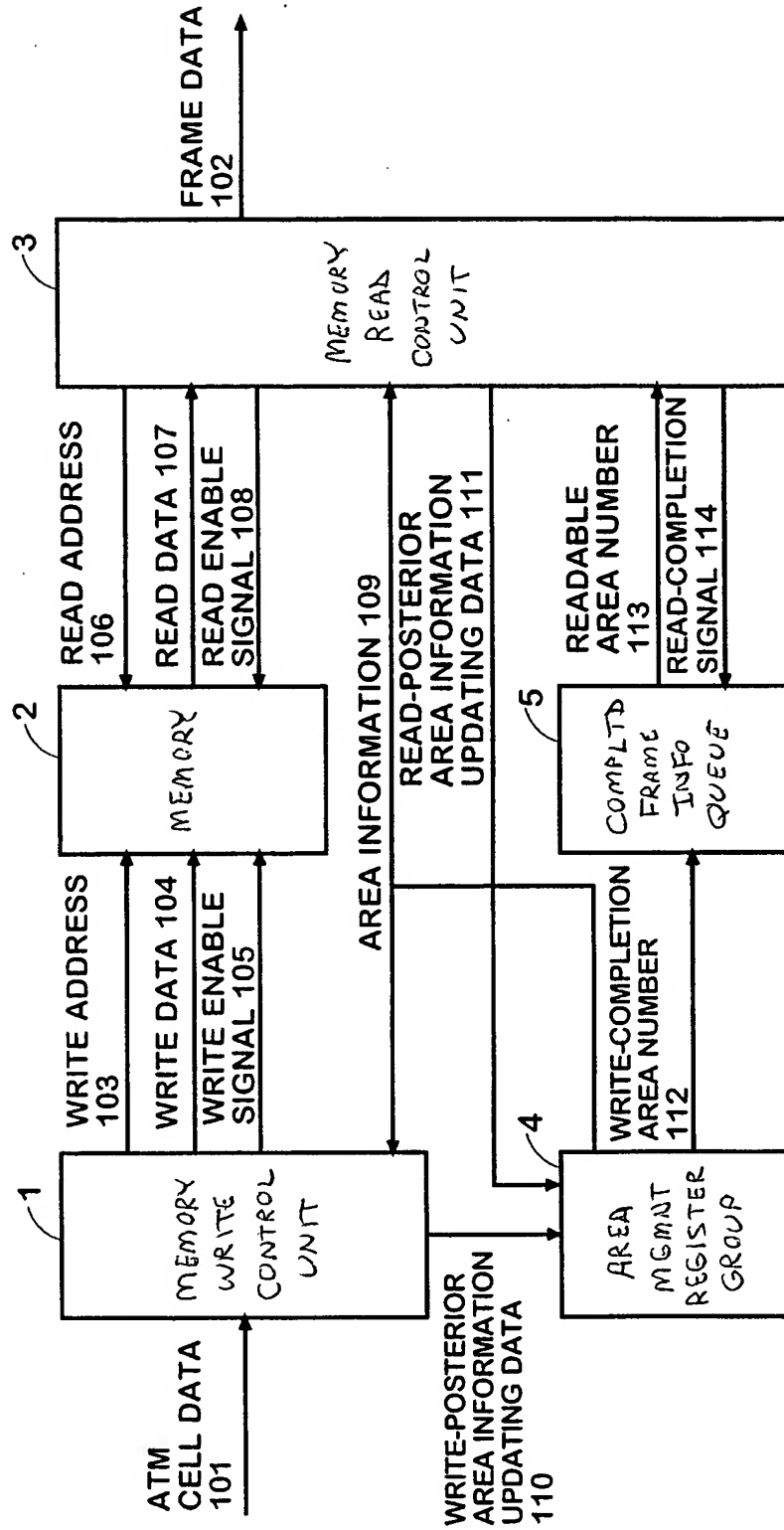


Fig.2

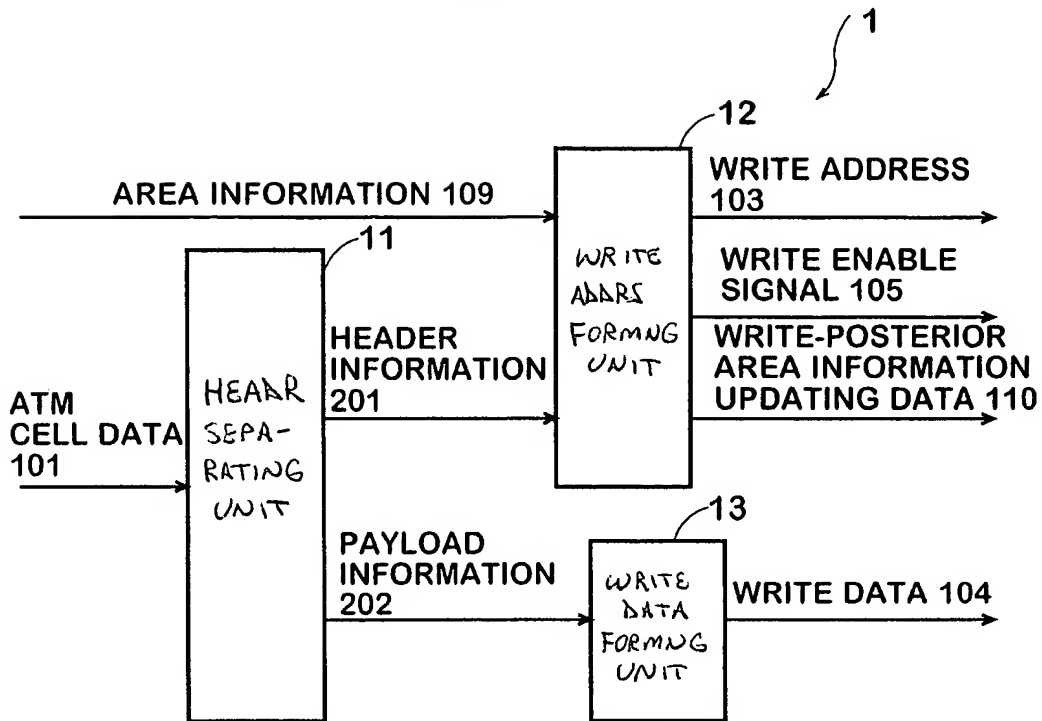
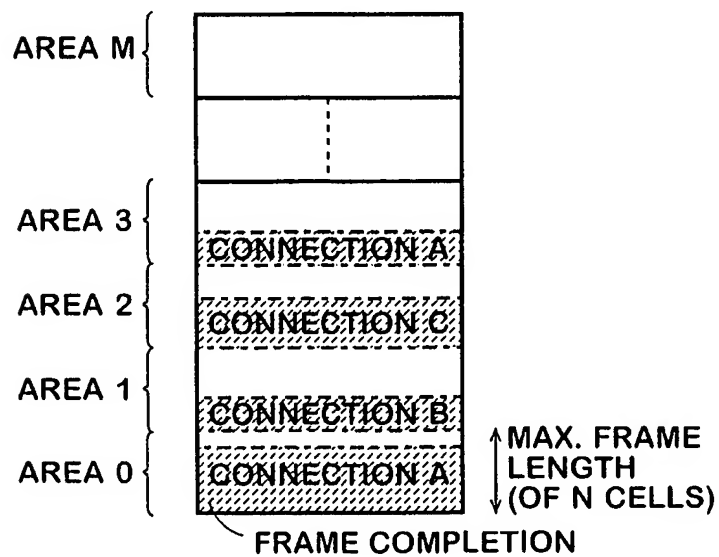


Fig.3



~~3,317~~

Fig.4

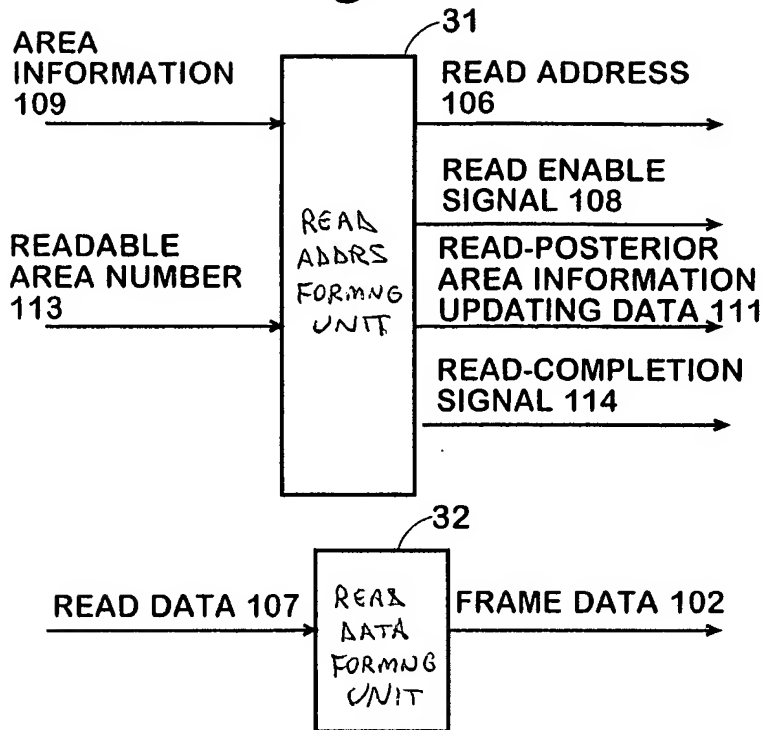
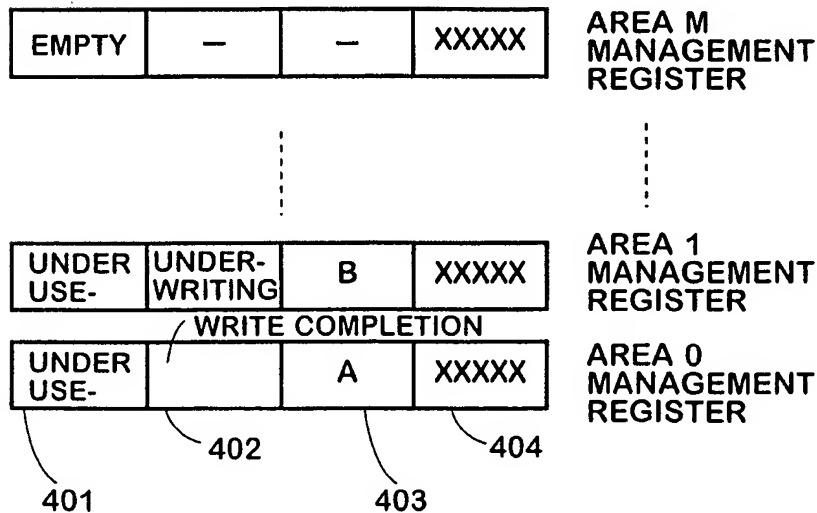
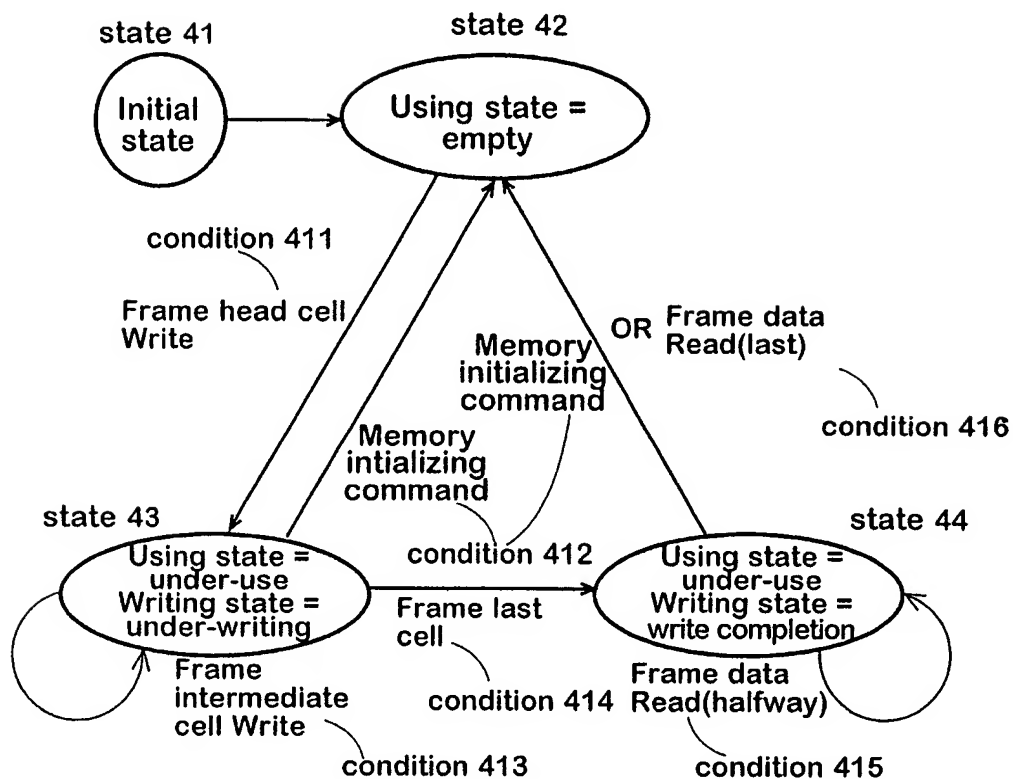


Fig.5



~~4217~~

Fig. 6



~~5X17~~
Fig.7

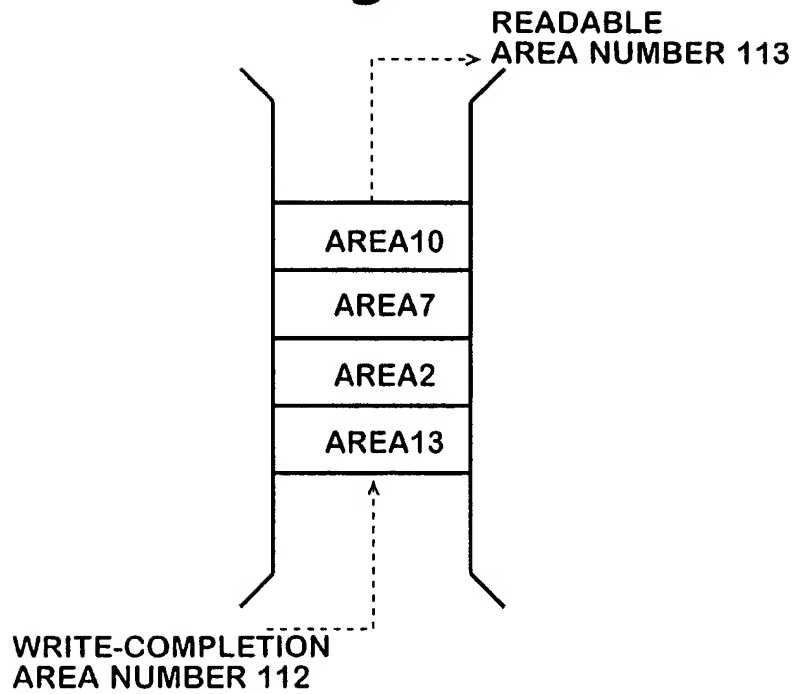
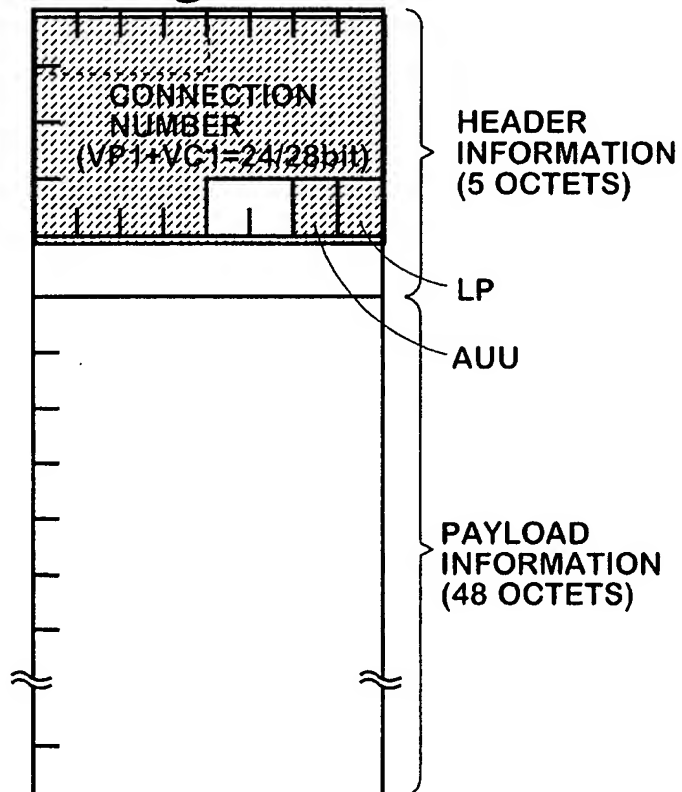
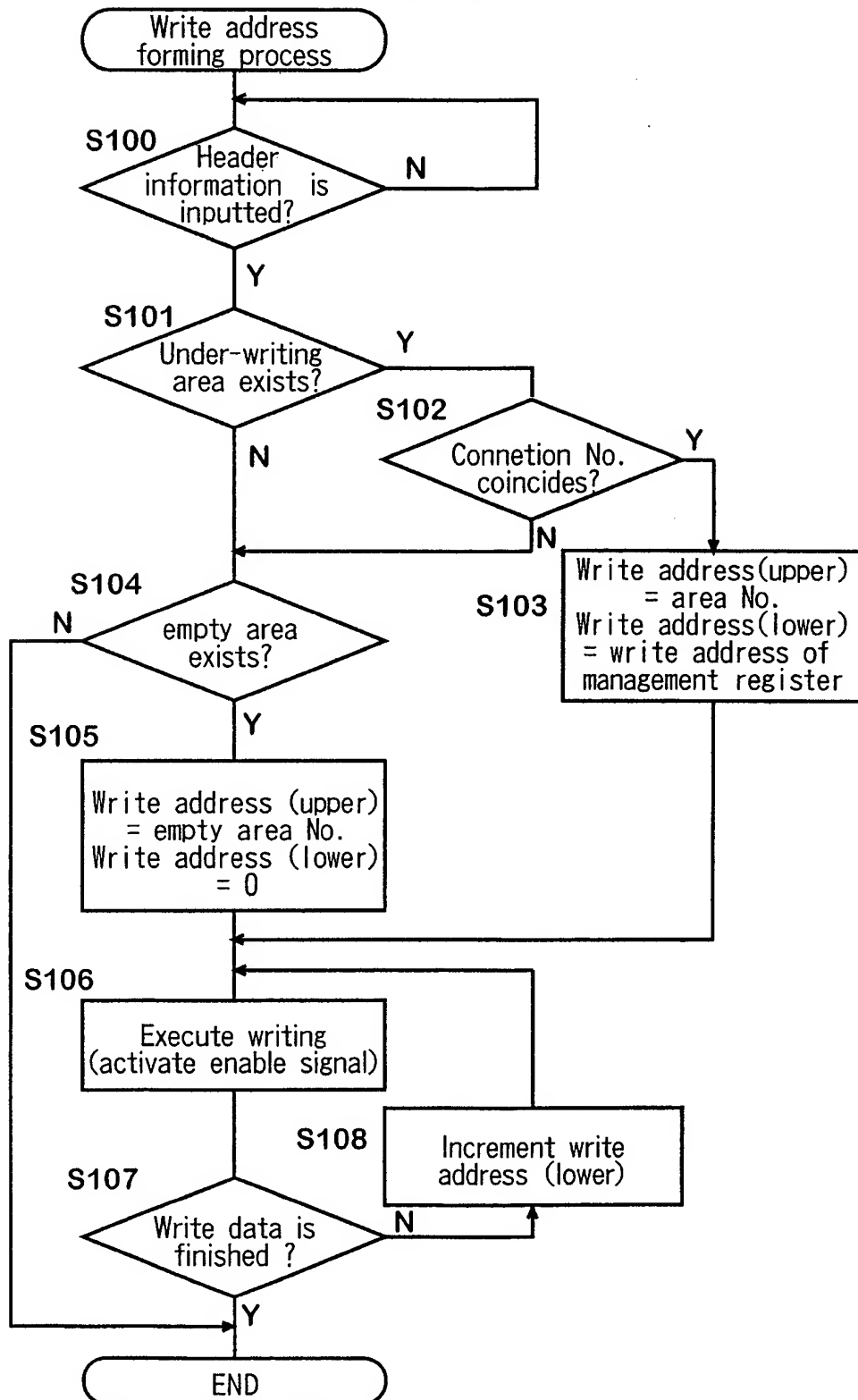


Fig.8



~~6-17~~
Fig.9



~~XXXXX~~

Fig. 10

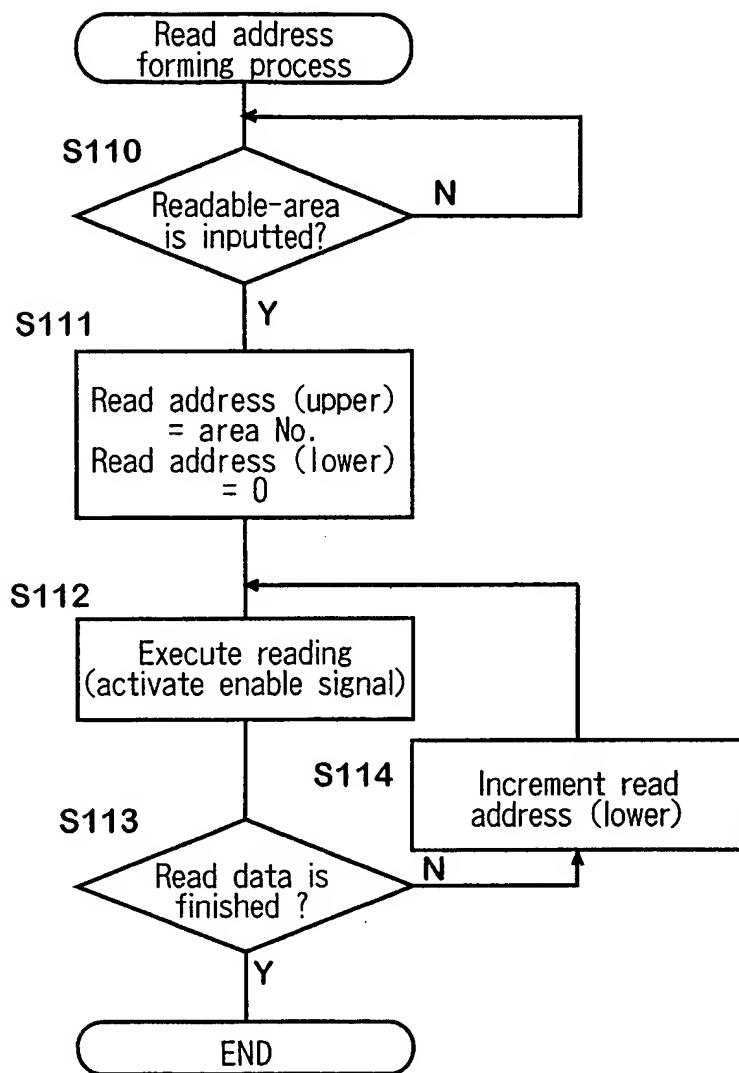
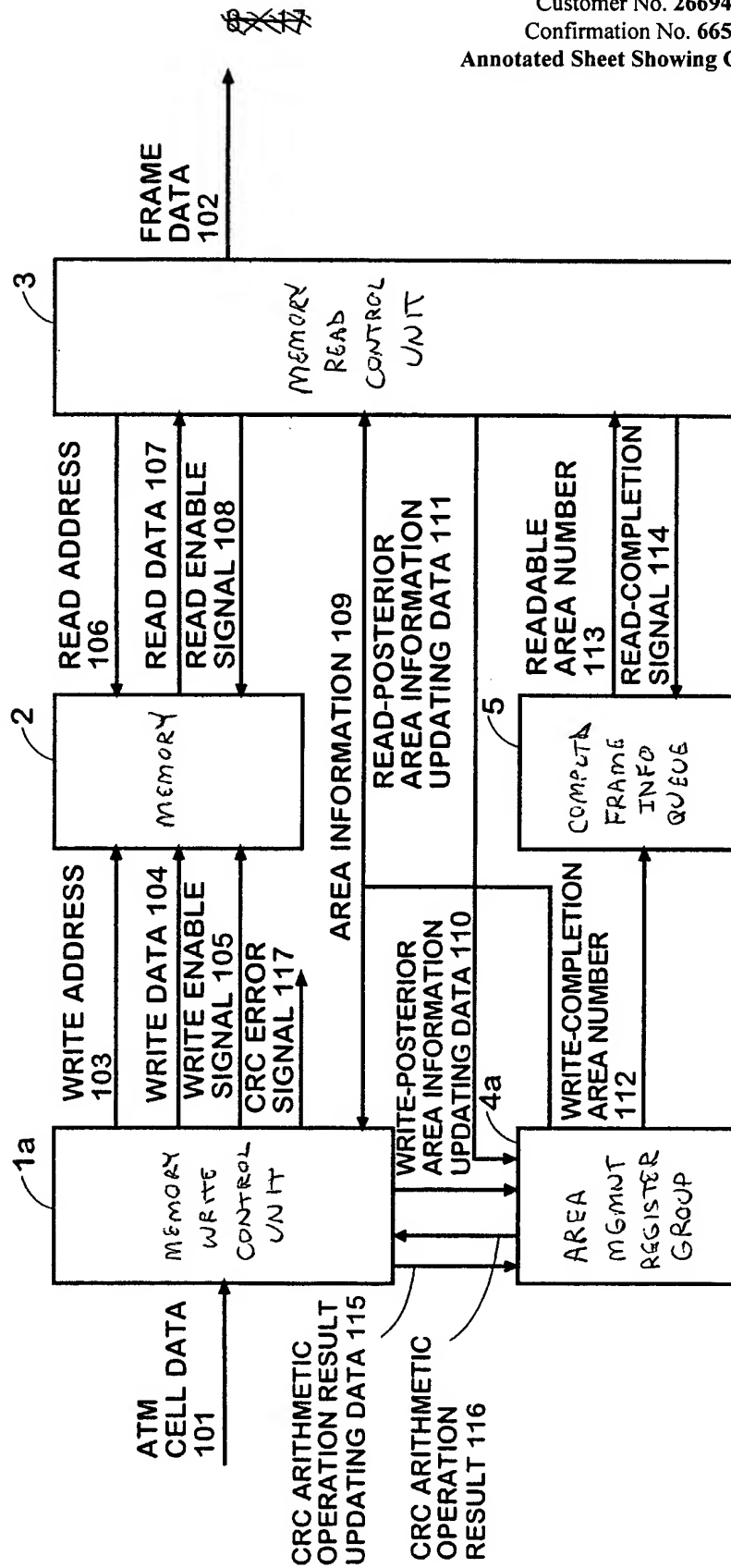
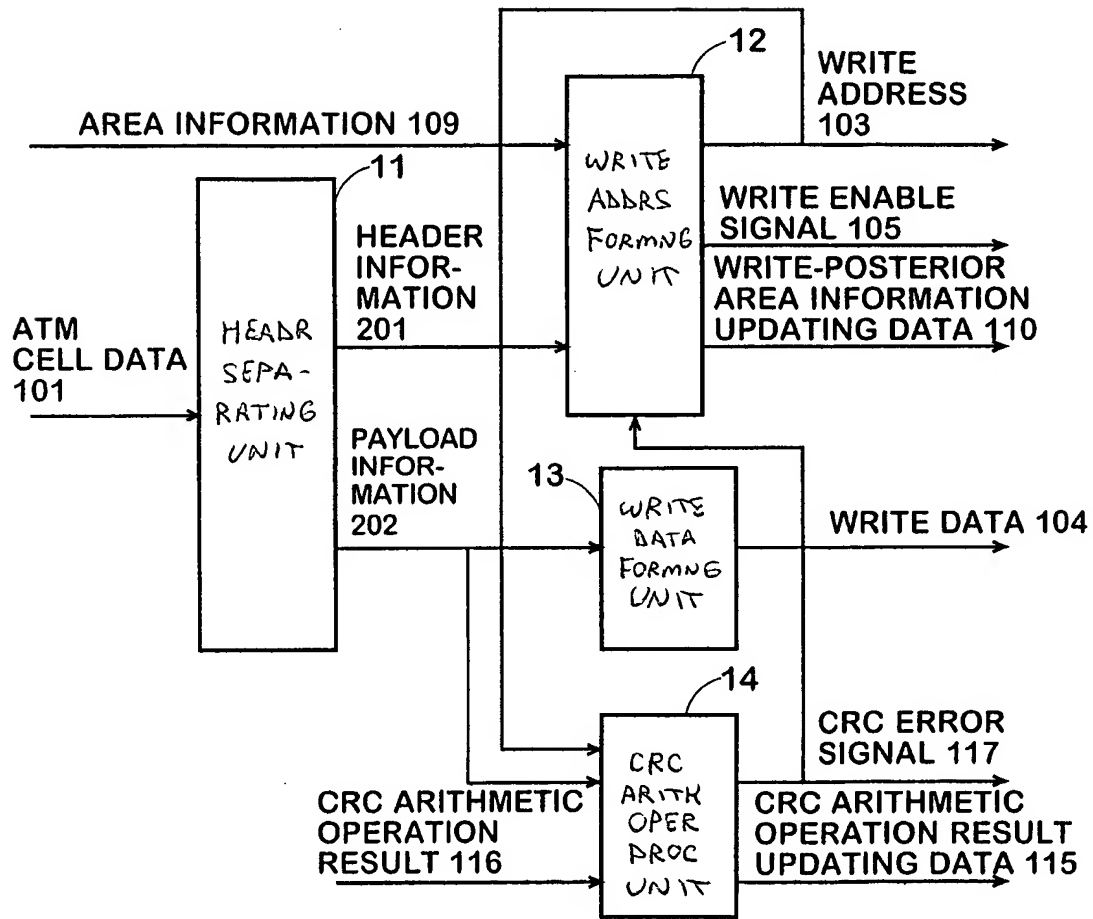


Fig. 11



~~9/17~~

Fig. 12



~~10/7/17~~

Fig. 13

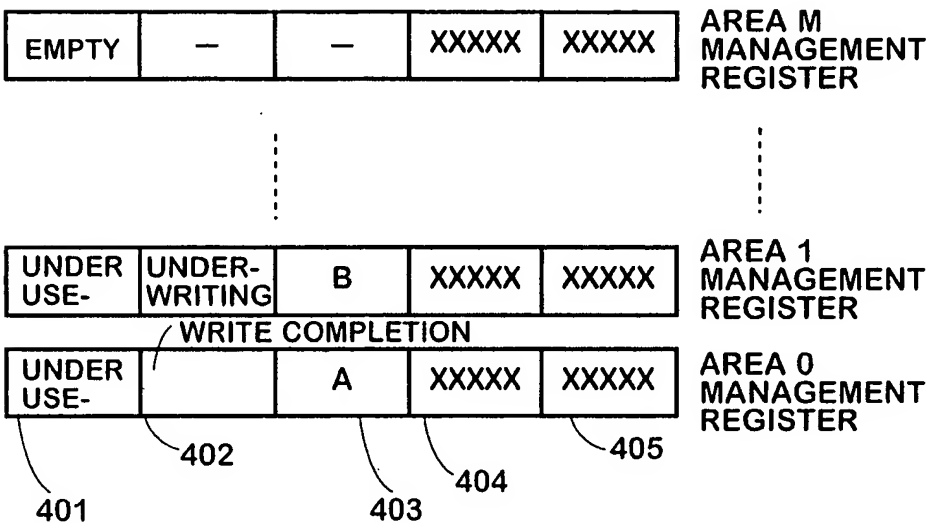
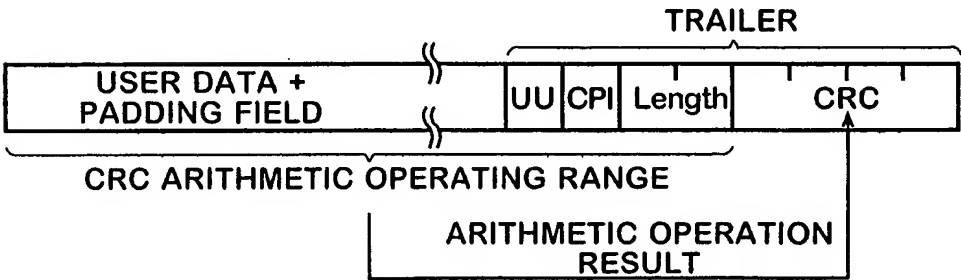


Fig. 14



~~XXXXXX~~

Fig. 15

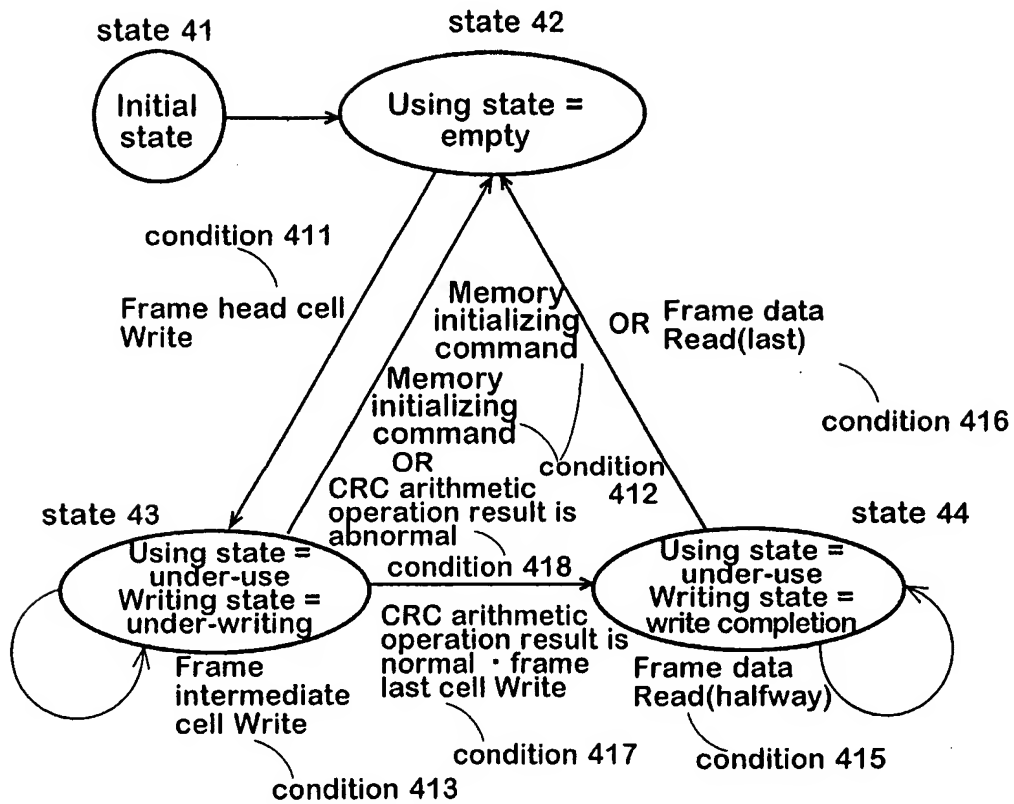
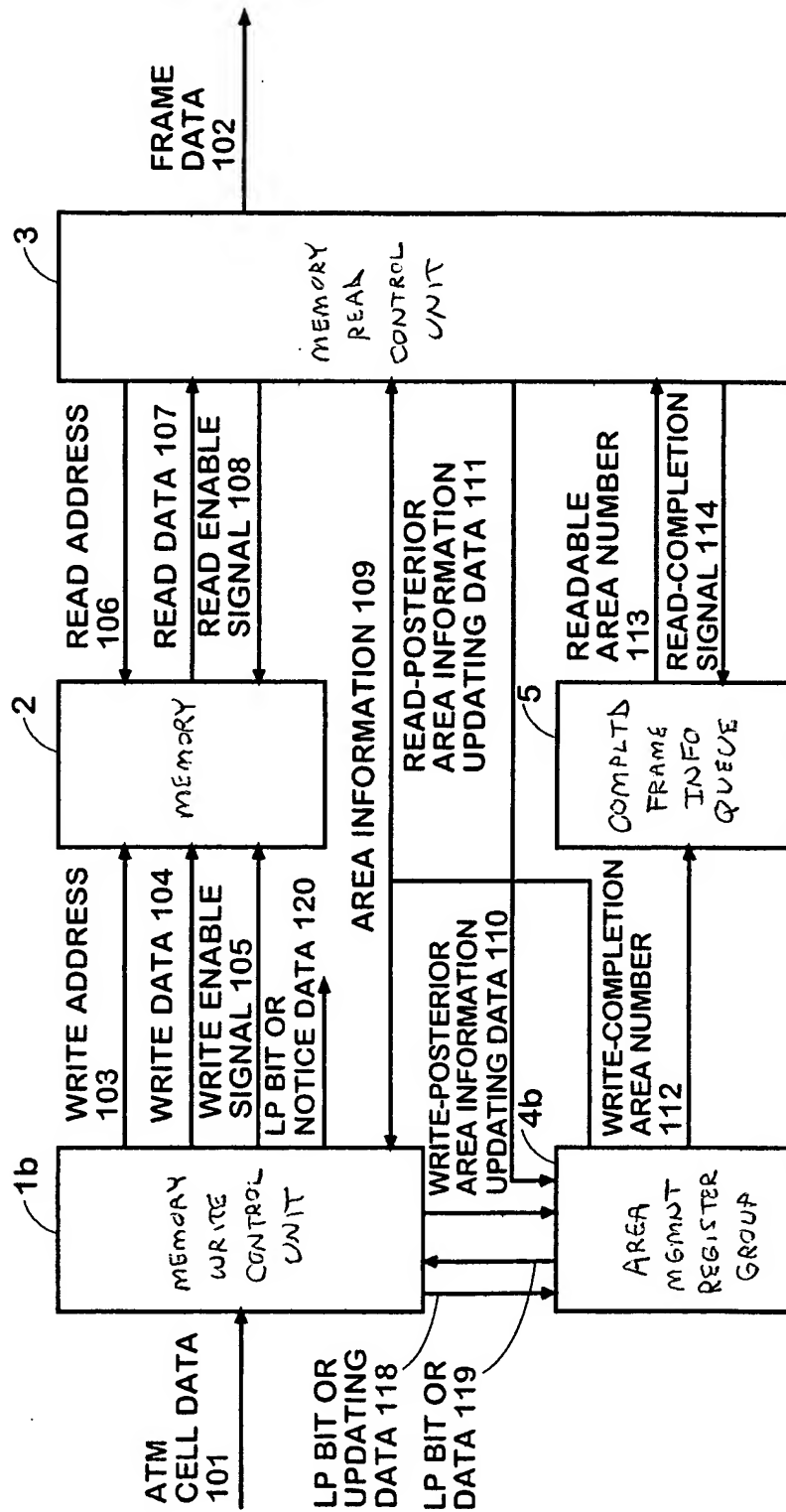


Fig. 16



~~13/17~~

Fig. 17

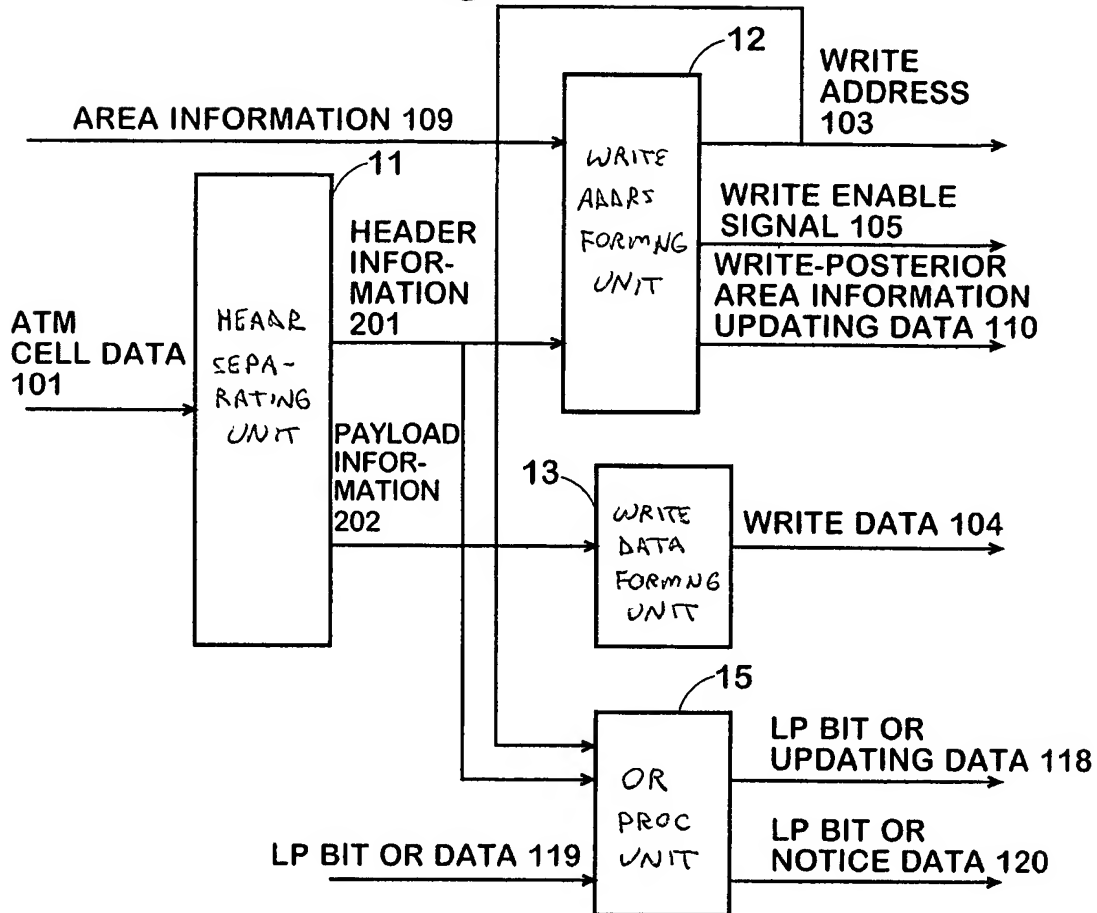
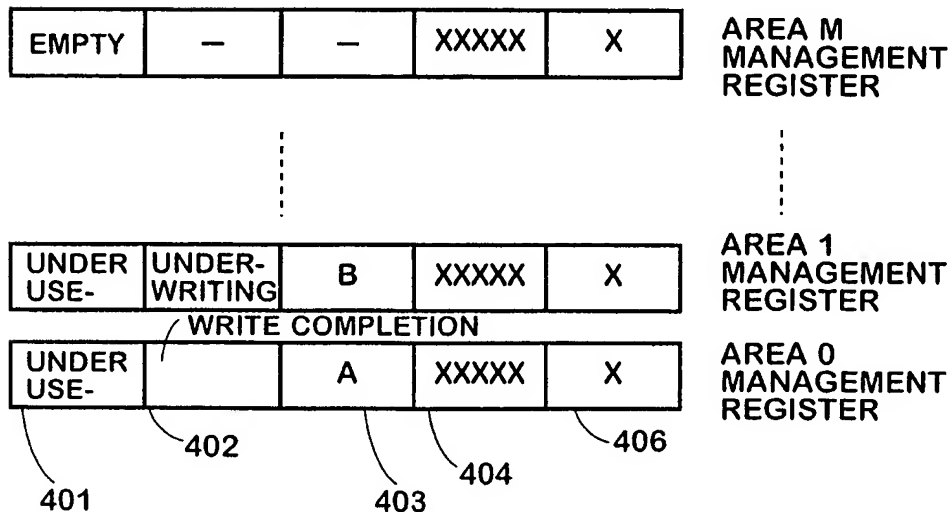


Fig. 18



~~1A/17~~

Fig.19

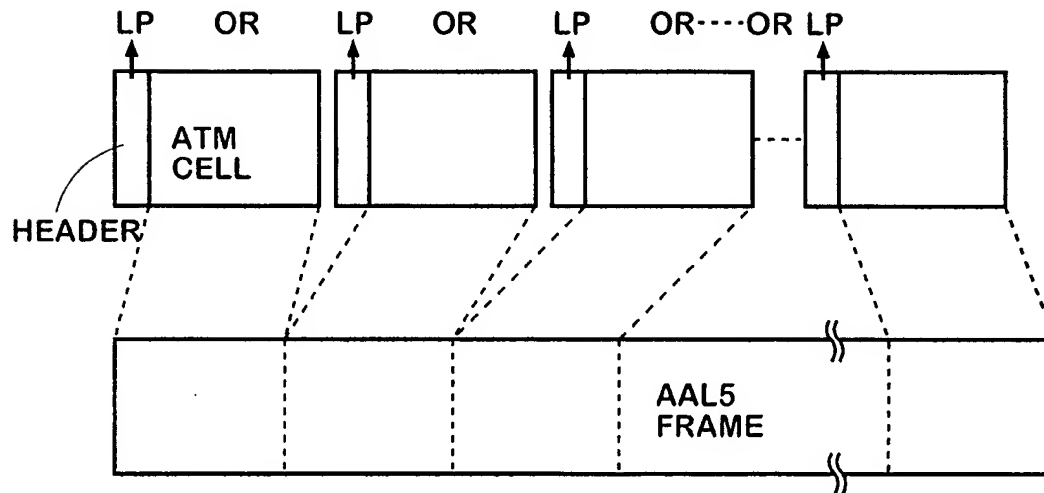
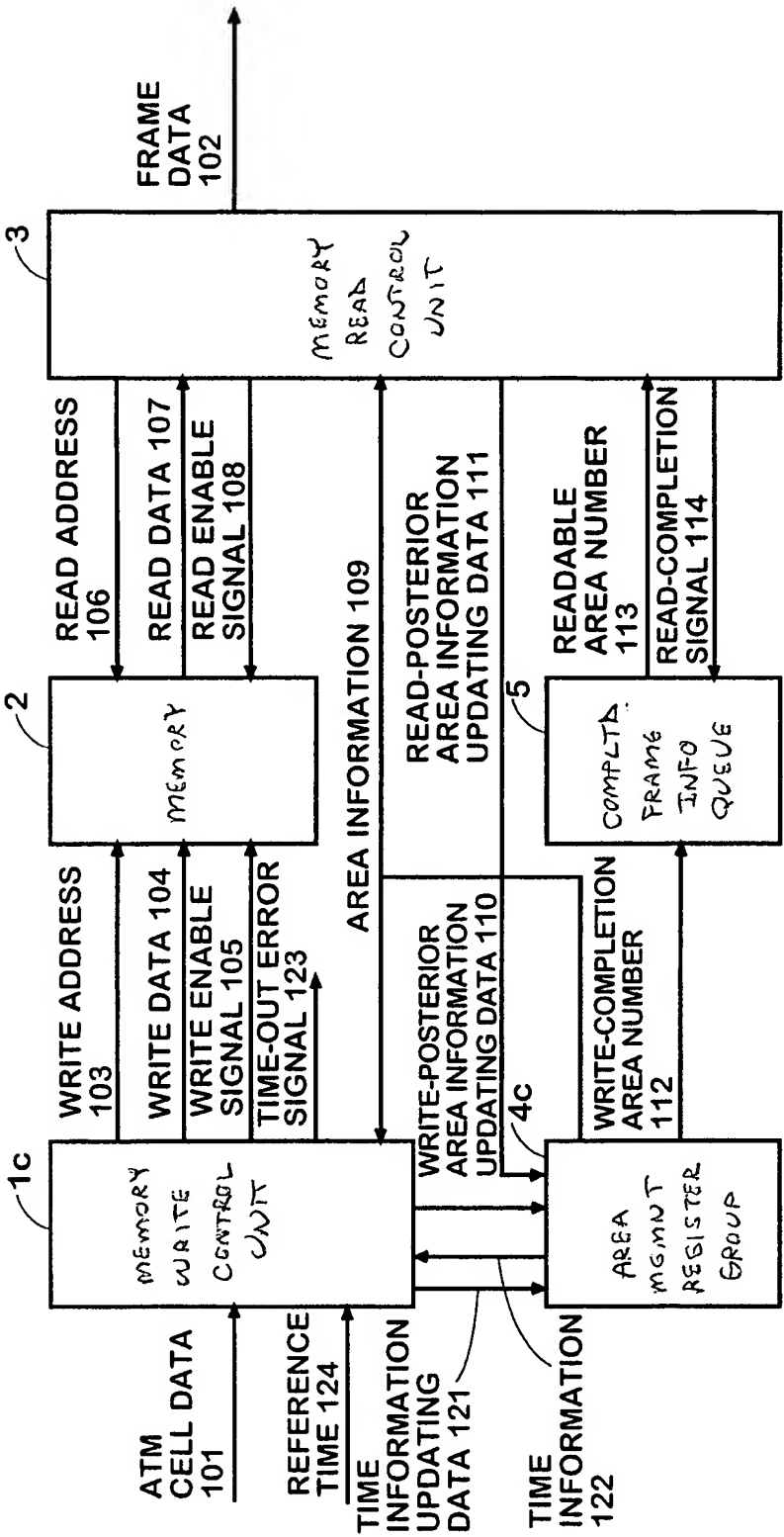


Fig. 20



~~16/17~~
Fig.21

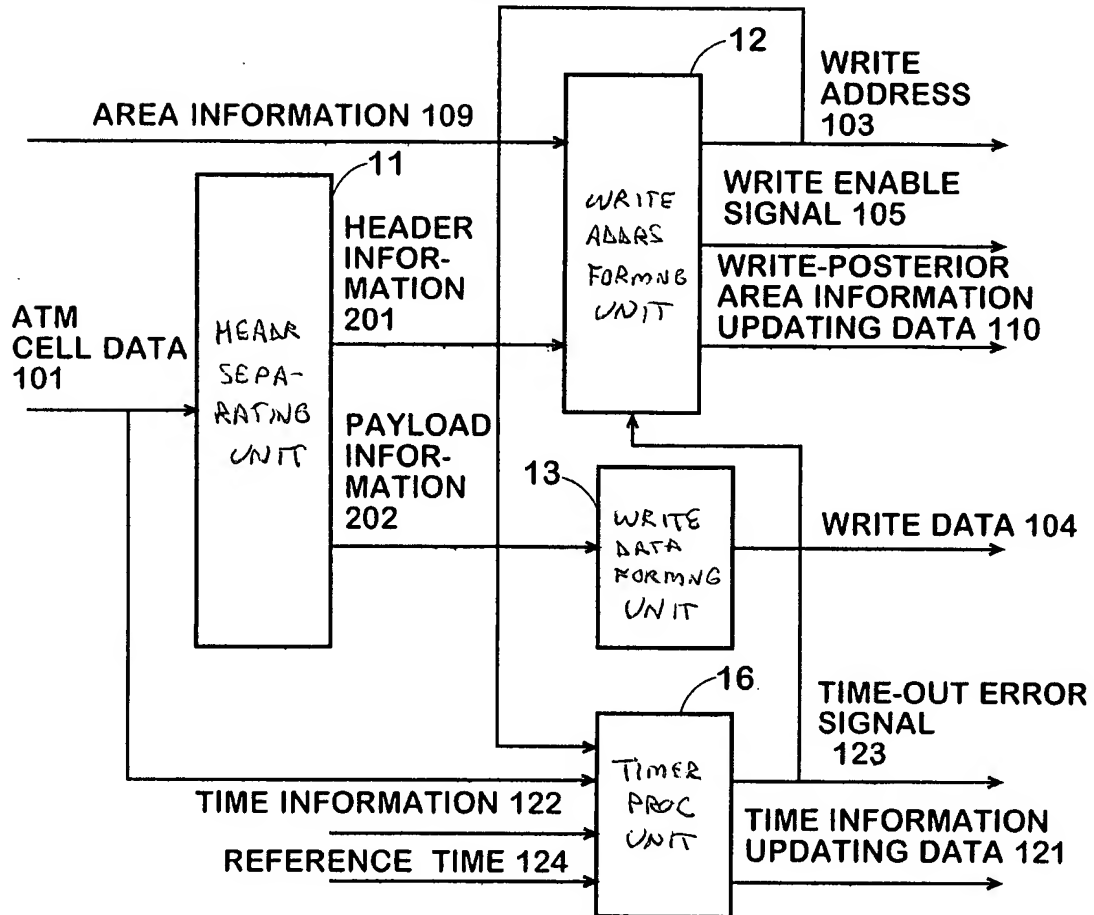
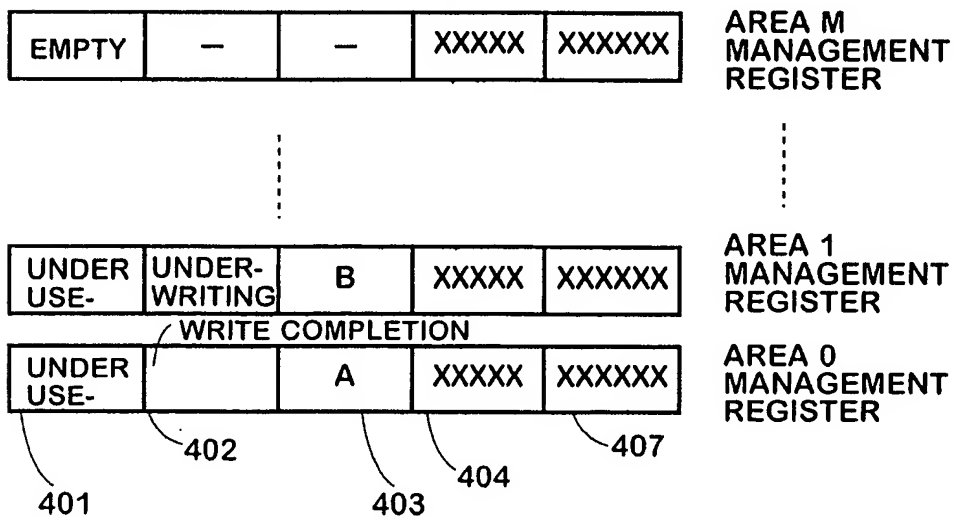


Fig.22



~~17/17~~

Fig.23

